



The Bylaws of the Telugu Association of Connecticut

Article 1 - Name

This registered, non-profit organization (application pending), in the State of Connecticut, USA, shall be known as the Telugu Association of Connecticut (**TACT**).

Article 2 - Objectives

->	To encourage and promote the social and cultural functions of the Telugu community in the region
->	To invite and honor literary, scientific, and cultural dignitaries of interest to the TACT members
->	To promote better communication in the Telugu community in the region...
->	To collect donations for educational and socioeconomic development of the needy, and transfer of funds to registered charities of interest to TACT members
->	To organize other functions as required, which will involve the participation of the TACT members
->	To secure a permanent place in Connecticut to facilitate the above objectives and to take care of the vulnerable (children, older generations) sections of the Telugu community

Article 3 - Memberships & General Body

Membership is open to all those interested in the activities and functions of **TACT**, and residing in the state of Connecticut and neighboring states of CT. The **TACT** Members are defined as those who paid the annual dues as specified in the Article 21. Membership includes individuals and family (husband, wife and dependent), youth below 21 years of age. All such members constitute the General Body of **TACT**.

Husband and wife are the only voting members in the family membership. Above 18yrs of age can pay individual membership to vote on their own behalf.

Article 4 - Governing Body

A. Executive Committee: The governing powers of **TACT** shall be vested in the Executive Committee (EC) consisting of a President, Secretary and Treasurer and Eight additional committee members. Executive Committee is responsible for operation of the association.

B. There shall be three trustees with 3yrs term. See Article-14 for installation procedure of Governing body.

Article 5 - Terms of Office

A. Each member of the Executive Committee shall serve for a term of two-years.

B. Each member of the Board of Trustees shall serve for a term of three years.

Article 6 - Vacancies

In the event a vacancy arises for any position in the Executive Committee prior to the next election time, the remaining Executive Committee members shall nominate an eligible member of TACT as specified in the Article 15A for the vacated office. Such person shall serve until the next election.

Any vacancies in the BOT will be filled in by the 2/3-majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Article 7 - Finances

A. The TACT Executive Committee shall open and maintain accounts in the name of TACT Inc at a recognized financial institution in the State of Connecticut. Signatures of the President or Treasurer of the Executive Committee shall be required to operate the accounts

B. For amounts over \$500 signatures of both the president and treasurer are required

C. All Budgets shall be approved and expenses should be appropriated by simple majority of EC.

Article 8 - Agent and Office

A. The President of the TACT each year will be the registered agent of the TACT and his/her residence will be the registered office of the TACT at no cost to the association until the intended permanent place is secured

Change of the mailing address shall be notified to the appropriate authorities (Secretary of State of Ct, IRS etc.)

Article 9 - Revisions and Amendments to the Bylaws

A. Revisions and Amendments shall be recommended to the General Body (GB) by the EC and BOT. Proposed revisions and amendments to Bylaws shall be posted on the TACT website at least two weeks before the General Body (GB). Proposed revisions and amendments shall be considered passed when two thirds of members of GB present at the meeting where there is quorum

Article 10 - Dissolution

In case of dissolution, all assets shall be distributed to any organization that subscribes to the ideals as those of TACT and is qualified as a tax-exempt under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provisions of a future United States Internal Revenue Law.

EC and BOT or in the absence of EC, BOT will dissolve as above.

Article 11 - Duties of the Executive Committee and the BOT

A. The service of the Executive Committee members and the Trustees of TACT is voluntary and there shall be no remuneration to any member. This is a service to the community

B. The secretary shall call and the President shall preside over all the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body. The President shall serve as the official spokesperson of the TACT. General body meeting can be called by the secretary in consultation with the President and the consent of the majority of the executive members

C. The Secretary shall serve as the coordinator of all activities as may be required by the Executive Committee and the General Body. He/she shall also assume the responsibility of

maintaining the meeting minutes and all pertinent documents of the TACT

D. The Treasurer shall be the official in-charge of all the TACT's finances related to operating funds and membership dues. He/she shall be responsible for all the collection of the annual dues and donations from the members and larger community. The Treasurer will provide a Audited Balance sheet of the TACT to the General Body at the last function of the year or the first function of the following year

E If any member of the Executive Committee does not attend three consecutive meetings without a valid reason, he/she shall cease to be the member of that body and may be replaced

Article 12 - Quorum

A. At any General Body meeting, the quorum shall consist of one-third of the current paid (as of Sankranti event or January of 31st which ever comes first) membership of that year. In the event that one-third attendance is not possible, the President shall call for another special General Body meeting. In the special General body meeting 2/3 of those members present constitute the majority.

B. A quorum at the Executive Committee meeting shall consist of at least two members out of the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer. In addition, at least three other Executive Members should be present for the quorum.

Article 13 - Conflicts of Interest

A. No person shall serve any two positions simultaneously in the TACT organization during the same two-year term

B. More than one member of the same family shall not contest or serve for the positions in the TACT organization during the same term

C. TACT members (including EC & BOT) shall not use TACT assets for the benefit of personal, family and friends' businesses

Article 14 - Installations of TACT EC & BOT

A. A new TACT Executive Committee shall be installed every two-year period

B. In each two-year term of office the new Executive Committee shall be installed by April 30 or Ugadi Event of that year, which ever comes later.

C. Electing President and EC members are by the General Body only. President shall select the secretary and the treasurer from the EC members.

D. Removal of any officer OF TACT can be recommended by two thirds of EC and approved by the BOT

E. The procedures for nomination are given in Article 15

F. In the event of a contest, elections shall be conducted as per the Election Guidelines in Article 16

G. Trustees are nominated by the President and elected by the Executive Committee by a 2/3-majority vote

Article 15 - Nomination Procedures

A. All the active members who have paid dues by Sankranti event or January 31st of current year (which ever comes first) to TACT are eligible for nomination to the TACT Executive Committee

B. Nominations for the Executive Committee should be sent by April 1st to the TACT Election committee.

C.	Nominations shall be in writing signed by the Candidate and two sponsoring members of TACT and shall be with the full consent of the candidate to serve the full term of the office
D.	If no nominations are received voluntarily by April 1st of the year the election is due, the Executive Committee and the BOT shall either nominate the candidates for all the vacant positions or appoint a Nominating Committee with three members of TACT in good standing by April 30 th or the day of Ugadi celebration of the election year to recommend a slate to be presented to the General Body
E.	The candidates recommended by the Executive Committee may be approved by a simple majority of the General Body either by mail, or in a special meeting, thus concluding the selections of the TACT EC candidates for the following term. There is no need for elections in this case

Article 16 - Election Procedures

A.	Election Committee shall be appointed by EC prior to March 1 st of the election year.
B.	Elections shall be announced by March 15 of the election year and shall be completed by April 30 of the year or Ugadi event which ever comes later.
C.	The elections should be called for in writing to all the members in good standing (dues paid as of Jan 31 st of that year) at the time of the election.
D.	Election shall be conducted at the General Body Meeting
E.	A three-member Election committee appointed by the Executive Committee shall conduct the election. The contestants may send their representatives to observe the counting
F.	Election Committee shall email election guidelines and Nomination form to all active members by March 15 th of the election year. The information should also be posted on TACT website.
G.	All TACT Property, Finances and Crucial documents (Password for Website, TACT Email password, Certificate of Incorp etc) should be handed over to BOT before April 1 st of the election year by EC.

Article 17 - Limitations of Terms in Office

The **TACT** President shall not serve in the committee for more than 2 consecutive terms.

Article 18 - Record Keeping

The officers of the **TACT** shall maintain all records, past and present in good order and document the minutes of the meeting and decisions made during the year. Financial records shall be maintained for a minimum of seven years.

Article 19 - Internal Audit Committee (Three Members)

Two persons (members in good standing) nominated one each by EC and BOT along with the treasurer shall constitute the committee. Third member will be from the GB Treasurer is ex-officio of the audit committee with no vote. The internal audit committee shall conduct annual internal audit of **TACT** books prior to presentation of the financial statements to the GB.

Article 20 - Annual Filing of Statements

Officers of the **TACT** shall file every year, annual or other statements needed by the State of Connecticut or other governmental agencies and maintain a separate file for the past year's submittals.

Article 21 - Membership Fee

- A. The **TACT** encourages everyone to become a member of the association. In order to sustain its activities, the **TACT** has devised the following categories of membership fees. The Life Membership category needs to pay their full membership fee at one time.

Membership Year: Sankranthi event or Jan 31st which ever comes later till next Sankranthi Event.

The membership categories are:

- Life Member - \$150
- Annual Family Member - \$20
- Annual Single Member - \$10
- Student with student Identification card - \$5

- B. The above membership fee structure or the amount may be proposed for change in the future by the Executive Committee and approved by a simple majority of the EC. Such changes do not apply to prior Life Members

- C. The **TACT** may withdraw a maximum of equivalent of regular annual family membership fee from the Life Membership fee towards their annual operating expenses

Article 22 - Delegation of the TACT

- A. The **TACT** Executive Committee in office shall select delegations and/or liaisons with other organizations when such need arises. Delegation members shall bear their own expenses

- B. The **TACT** Executive Committee may elect to be a dues paying association-member of any national organization with similar objectives as **TACT**

Article 23 - Past President

The past President or any member of the previous Executive Committee of **TACT** is obliged to help the new Executive Committee with the orderly transfer of records and bank accounts. The past President shall attend the first meeting and may attend routine meetings especially if requested by the current Executive Committee. The past President is not a voting member of the Executive Committee.

Amended and Approved on Jan 17, 2009

Sumalatha Vattigunta
President

Rao Yalamanchili
Tresurer

Ayyavaru Sivalenka
Secretary

Sreekanth Nelakudity
Joint-secretary

Gopal Kommuru
EC Member

Radha Krishna Alavala
EC Member

Haritha Machineni
EC Member

Srinivas Yenduri
EC Member

Santhi Sree Vutukuru
EC Member(relocated)

